

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SOLOMON et al

Atty. Ref.: 47-142

Serial No. Unassigned

Group:

Filed: December 21, 2000

Examiner:

For: ELECTROPHORESIS GELS AND CROSS-LINKING AGENTS FOR THEIR
PREPARATION

* * * * *

December 21, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

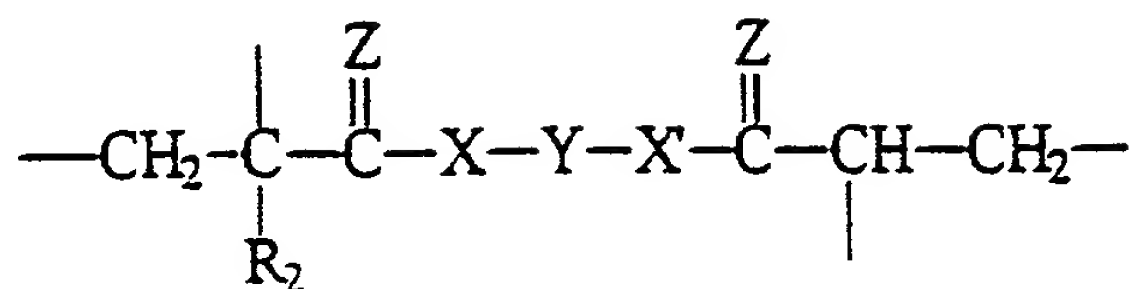
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-11, 14 and 18 without prejudice.

15. (Amended) A method of separating molecules comprising providing a cross-linked polymer gel [according to any one of Claims 1-14] comprising a cross-linking moiety of the formula:



wherein

X and X' are independently selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-

and -NR-, where R is H, alkyl or cycloalkyl,

Y is an optionally substituted non-aromatic divalent linking group,

Z is O or S; and

R₂ is a C₁-C₄ alkyl group,

provided that when said crosslinked polymer gel is a non-aqueous polymer gel and R₂ is CH₃ and Y is -CH₂-CH₂-, X, X' and Z are not all O, placing a sample containing the molecules to be separated onto the gel, and subjecting the gel and sample to a separation technique.

Claim 16, line 1, delete "11" and replace by --15--.

Claim 17, line 1, delete "or 16".

REMARKS

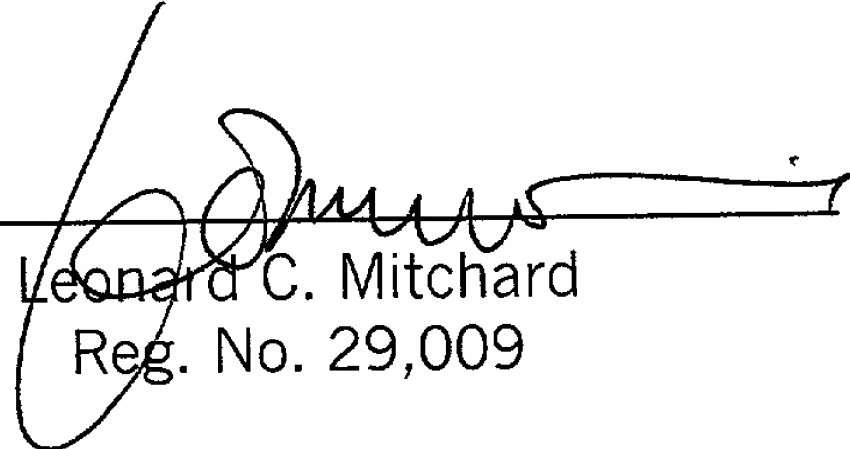
The claims have been amended so as to be directed to the non-elected subject matter arising from the Restriction Requirement mailed April 11, 2000 in parent application Serial No. 09/214,716 filed February 18, 1999, of which the present application is a divisional application. No new matter is entered.

Favorable action on this application is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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